



PRESS RELEASE

Office of the City Manager

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For Immediate Release

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**Saratoga Kicks Off Holiday Season:
*Annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Wine Stroll***

WHAT: 12th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Village Open House

WHEN: Friday, November 29, 2013
5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Saratoga Village
Big Basin Way and Highway 9
Saratoga, CA 95070

The City of Saratoga and Saratoga Chamber of Commerce will be kicking off the holidays with the 12th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Wine Stroll the evening after Thanksgiving. At 5:30 p.m., the Mayor of Saratoga and Bayshore Lyric Opera will officially start the event in Blaney Plaza with holiday songs and the ceremonial tree lighting.

“The Holiday Tree Lighting and Wine Stroll is a lovely event that marks the beginning of the holiday season here in Saratoga,” Mayor Jill Hunter said. “It’s a yearly tradition for many Saratoga families, including my own. The event brings forth a wonderful feeling of community and the true spirit of the season. It’s a great night to say that we’re proud to be Saratoga residents.”

In addition to the tree lighting ceremony, the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce will host the Holiday Wine Stroll in lovely Saratoga Village starting at 5:00 p.m. The event will also include an open house of Village businesses. Visitors can enjoy light refreshments or sample products while getting acquainted with the wide variety of downtown businesses. For those looking for one-of-a-kind holiday gifts, many of the Village’s unique shops will be holding extended shopping hours.

The Wine Stroll will feature 25 local wineries based in and around Saratoga. Registration for the Wine Stroll is \$40 in advance and \$45 on the day of the event. For more information and to

register, visit http://www.saratogachamber.org/2013_holiday_wine_stroll.php or call 408.867.0753.

During the event, there will be a variety of free holiday festivities, including horse-drawn carriage rides, a snow zone for kids, crafts for children, Christmas caroling and bell ringers, and more. The Saratoga History Museum will also be open and showing a special holiday exhibit, offering light refreshments, and accepting unwrapped toys to be donated to Sacred Heart Community Service for children in need.

Visit http://www.saratogachamber.org/dickens_holiday.htm for additional event information.

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The City of Saratoga has several photos of past Tree Lighting events. For photos, please contact Saratoga City Clerk Crystal Bothelio at ctclerk@saratoga.ca.us.



Photo of 2010 Tree Lighting, photo credit: Ron Leckie